

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-04 CEA-01 L-02 H-02 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /094 W

----- 121539

R 210700Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0174

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3585

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN,KS

SUBJECT: PRIMIN REASSURES BUSINESSMEN ON SECURITY SITUATION

1. DURING A BRIEF MEETING WITH KOREAN-US ECONOMIC COUNCIL OFFICERS, PRIMIN KIM CHONG-PIL COMMENTED THAT SOME AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN WERE CONCERNED ABOUT INVESTING IN KOREA OWING TO THREAT FROM NORTH. KIM SAID THIS CONCERN WAS BASED ON A MISUNDERSTANDING. AS LONG AS US TROOP PRESENCE REMAINS AT ROUGHLY CURRENT LEVEL AND AS LONG AS KOREA ITSELF IS STRONG, HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT KIM IL-SONG WILL MISCALCULATE AND ATTACK THE SOUTH. KIM ADDED THAT KOREA IS NOW CONFIDENT ABOUT THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT. HE CONCLUDED THAT THE SECURITY SITUATION POSED NO DANGER TO INVESTMENT IN KOREA.

2. COMMENT: PARTIALLY AT OUR SUGGESTION, MANY INFLUENTIAL KOREANS ARE NOW SOFT-PEDALING PRESIDENT PAK'S "STATE OF WAR" STATEMENTS, AWARE THAT THESE HAVE THE POTENTIAL OF DAMAGING THE INVESTMENT CLIMATE. IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH BUSINESSMEN WE HAVE OF COURSE BEEN TAKING THE

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SAME LINE. SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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